

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 04130 01 OF 02 041742Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----041756Z 130284 /42

O P 041701Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 387
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ATHENS 4130

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GR
SUBJECT: LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FROM CLARK CLIFFORD

REF: STATE 97654

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE PRIVATE MEETING I HAD THIS AFTERNOON WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS (SEPTTEL) I DELIVERED TO HIM AN ADVANCE TEXT OF CLARK CLIFFORD'S LETTER OF APRIL 29, AS CONTAINED REFTTEL. CARAMANLIS READ THE LETTER SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY, LINE BY LINE, AND THEN STOPPED AND SHOOK HIS HEAD, INDICATING SOME DISAGREEMENT.

2. CARAMANLIS ASKED ME TO THANK CLIFFORD FOR THE LETTER AND TO SAY THAT HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING CLIFFORD AGAIN AT HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IN LODNON NEXT TUESDAY. HE INDICATED HE HAD GREAT RESPECT AND HIGH PERSONAL REGARD FOR CLIFFORD. EVEN SO, HE SAID HE COULD NOT SHARE CLIFFORD'S "OPTIMISM" ON CYPRUS. I SAID I DID NOT THINK CLIFFORD WAS BEING OPTIMISTIC BUT ONLY REALISTIC, AND THAT HE WAS OBVIOUSLY DOING HIS UTMOST AND ON THE RIGHT TRACK
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 04130 01 OF 02 041742Z

FOR ASSURING MOVEMENT TOWARD A VIABLE SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. I SAID THAT GIVEN THE ENORMOUS COMPLEXITY AND POTENTIAL PITFALLS IN THE ENDEAVOR WE ALL HAD TO COOPERATE TO ASSURE THAT PROGRESS WAS MADE, EXPECIALLY CARAMANLIS AND THE GOG.

3. CARAMANLIS SAID HE AND GREECE WERE CERTAINLY READY

FOR PROGRESS SO WERE MAKARIOS AND THE GREEK CYRPIOTS. HOWEVER, THE TURKISH SIDE CONTINUES TO ACT LIKE MADMEN AND CRAZY PEOPLE. PERHAPS, CARAMANLIS ACKNOWLEDGED, MAKARIOS HAS BEEN SOMETHING OF A STUMBLING BLOCK IN MONTHS PAST, BUT THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE. MAKARIOS IS READY TO GIVE SATISFACTION TO THE TURKS ON WHAT THEY HAVE ASSERTED ALL ALONG WERE THEIR MAJOR REQUIREMENTS. MAKARIOS AND THE GREEK GOVERNMENT COULD HAVE INSISTED ON THE STATUS QUO ANTE IN CYPRUS PRIOR TO THE JULY 1974 EVENTS, BUT THEY DID NOT.

4. IF THE TURKS WERE REALLY SERIOUS THEY COULD HAVE A SETTLEMENT WITHIN ONE WEEK ON CYPRUS. THEY COULD CONSOLIDATE THEIR VICTORY ON THE ISLAND INSTEAD OF CONTINUING TO BE "THE PRISONER" OF THE ISLAND. PUTTING HIMSELF IN THE SHOES OF TURKISH LEADERSHIP HE, CARAMANLIS, SAW ALL KINDS OF ADVANTAGES FOR TURKEY IN SETTLING THE CYPRUS QUESTION: ECONOMIC, MILITARY, STRATEGIC, POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL, ETC. SINCE THEY DO NOT SETTLE -- AND NO ONE SHOULD BE FOOLED BY THEIR TRANSPARENT PERFORMANCE IN VIENNA LAST MONTH -- ONE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THEY ARE EITHER CRAZY OR HAVE SOMETHING ELSE UP THEIR SLEEVE. AND THIS LATTER POSSIBILITY, CARAMANLIS SAID, WAS WHAT WORRIED HIM MORE THAN ANYTHING.

5. CARAMANLIS BEGAN TO LAMENT AGAIN ABOUT THE SHORT-NESS OF HIS SCHEDULED BILATERAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ATHENS 04130 01 OF 02 041742Z

CARTER IN LONDON NEXT TUESDAY MORNING. IT WAS CLEAR THEY WERE NOT GOING TO BEGIN TO HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DISCUSS REALLY VERY SERIOUS ISSUES. I EXPLAINED AGAIN THE DEMANDS ON THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE AND SAID THAT IT WAS PRECISELY BECAUSE OF THIS THAT I THOUGHT THAT A LONG, SUBSTANTIVE MEETING BETWEEN CARAMANLIS AND CLIFFORD IN LONDON SEEMED TO BE SO NECESSARY AND IMPORTANT. I SAID THAT MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT CLIFFORD HAD THE ABSOLUTE AND TOTAL CONFIDENCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE AND THAT HE COULD BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE AREA ON BEHALF OF THE USG. I REMINDED CARAMANLIS THAT WHEN CLIFFORD WAS IN ATHENS LAST FEBRUARY HE COULD DO LITTLE MORE THAN LISTEN TO WHAT CARAMANLIS HAD TO SAY.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 04130 02 OF 02 041746Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----041758Z 130307 /42

O P 041701Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 388

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ATHENS 4130

EXDIS

AFTER LEAVING ATHENS, HOWEVER, HE HAD VISITED TURKEY
AND CYPRUS WHERE HE HAD HAD VERY IMPORTANT TALKS.
HE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH WALDHEIM AND OTHER
INFLUENTIAL LEADERS AND PERSONALITIES. HE HAD
DISCUSSED THESE PROBLEMS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND
SECRETARY VANCE AFTER RETURNING TO WASHINGTON AND ALSO
HAD BEEN MEETING WITH MANY OF THE IMPORTANT LEADERS
IN THE AMERICAN CONGRESS. THUS, I FELT, THERE WAS
A GREAT DEAL HE COULD SAY TO CARAMANLIS IF THEY HAD
THE TIME AND OPPORTUNITY IN LONDON AND GREAT BENEFIT
TO BOTH THE GREEK AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS COULD ENSUE
FROM SUCH A MEETING. CARAMANLIS, WHO HAD EARLIER
INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NOT HAVE TIME FOR A SEPARATE
PRIVATE MEETING WITH CLIFFORD IN LONDON, SEEMED
IMPRESSED AND SAID HE WOULD REEXAMINE HIS SCHEDULE.
HE SAID HE WOULD BE VERY BUSY HIMSELF IN LONDON ON
TUESDAY THE 10TH AND WEDNESDAY MORNING THE 11TH, AS
HE HAD BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH NINE OTHER PRIME
MINISTERS INTERTWINED IN AND AROUND THE NATO COUNCIL
AND OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS. HE SAID HE WOULD
TRY AND WORK OUT TIME FOR A SUBSTANTIAL MEETING
WITH CLIFFORD ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL
THEY WERE BOTH IN LONDON NEXT TUESDAY TO MAKE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 04130 02 OF 02 041746Z

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS. IN ANY CASE HE SAID THAT
FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR
A LONG, SUBSTANTIVE MEETING WITH CLIFFORD AT SOME

POINT.
KUBISCH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ATHENS04130
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770156-0786
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770597/aaaadfyb.tel
Line Count: 172
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a1bf309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 97654
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2650165
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FROM CLARK CLIFFORD
TAGS: PFOR, GR, US, (CLIFFORD, CLARK M), (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1bf309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009